

REMARKS

Prior to this Response, claims 1-20 were pending in this application. Claim 7 has been amended and claim 21 has been added. No claims have been canceled. Therefore, claims 1-21 remain presented for examination.

35 U.S.C. §103 Rejection, Tripp in view of Kraft.

The Office Action has rejected claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the cited portions of U.S. Patent No. 6,516,337 to Tripp et al. (hereinafter "Tripp") in view of the cited portions of U.S. Patent No. 6,418,452 to Kraft et al. (hereinafter "Kraft"). Applicants respectfully traverse as the cited references fail to teach or suggest all of the recitations of the claims.

Claim 1 recites a directory for cataloging information comprising a global catalog of directory information that comprises a first local catalog of directory information from a first site and a second local catalog of directory information from a second site. The directory also includes a first timer. The first local catalog is removed from the global catalog if the first site fails to autonomously report in before the first timer expires.

Applicants respectfully submit that Tripp fails to disclose a first timer as recited in claim 1. As stated in the Office Action, Tripp discloses a server which periodically checks the validity of existing brochures. Tripp, col. 10, ll. 9-11. If a brochure is missing and remains missing for a number of check cycles, the brochure check server sends a request to delete the entry for the brochure from the brochure database. Id., col. 10, ll. 11-15. However, in contrast to claim 1, the brochure database is not a global catalog of directory information. Instead, the brochure database includes a list of brochures and their associated data fields. Id., col. 9, ll. 56-61. A brochure file provides conceptual information about a website, such as demographic information or the type(s) of information included on the site, purpose of the site, etc. Id., col. 5, ll. 38-42; col. 11, ll. 18-22. Unlike claim 1, the brochure file is not directory information. Thus, Tripp does not teach or suggest removing directory information from a global catalog if a site

fails to autonomously report in before a timer expires. This recitation is also not taught or suggested by Kraft.

As the cited references fail to teach or suggest the recitations of claim 1 discussed above, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is allowable. Claims 8 and 15 contain recitations similar to claim 1 and are also believed to be allowable for the reasons discussed above. The remaining claims depend from claim 1, 8, or 15. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit these claims are also allowable for at least the same reasons.

Applicants respectfully submit the dependent claims are also allowable for additional reasons. For instance, claim 7, as amended, recites a directory web page adapted for display to a user. The directory web page organizes at least a plurality of content objects included in the global catalog by categories. Applicants believe these recitations are also not taught or suggested by either Tripp or Kraft. As another example, claim 21 recites the first directory information includes content objects selected for publication to the third directory by an administrator of the first site. Tripp and Kraft fail to teach or suggest that a site administrator selects content objects for publication to directory information on a different site.

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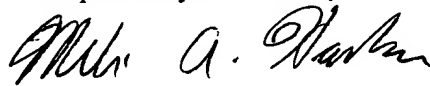
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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 303-571-4000.

Respectfully submitted,



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